

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.


The claims have been amended to correct the dependencies.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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RCS/rem  
2224-0194P

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Attachment:      VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

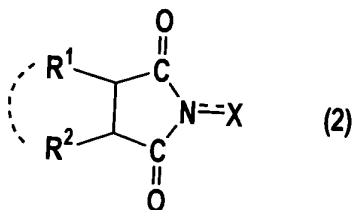
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

34. (Amended) A process according to any of [claim 1, 19 or 29] claim 1, 19, 29 or 33 wherein the imide compound is an imide compound represented by the following formula (2);



wherein  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  are the same or different, each representing a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an alkyl group, an aryl group, a cycloalkyl group, a hydroxyl group, an alkoxy group, a carboxyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, or an acyl group;  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  may bond together to form a double bond or an aromatic- or non-aromatic ring; the aromatic- or non-aromatic ring composed of  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  may have at least one imide unit represented by the formula (1); and X has the same meaning as defined above.